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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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1. During the past few months, armed bands of Albanians from Yugoslavia have penetrated as far south as the Elbasan region, carrying Yugoslav propaganda manifestoes as well as letters to the relatives and friends of such Albanian Nationalists as Rexhep Pullahu (also reported as Pulvahu), Osman Doraci, Met Rama and Rrem Agha (Aga?). These men had fled to Yugoslavia in January 1950, after having first formed a resistance band under Doraci.**

2. There are now said to remain in the Puka region a group of 13 men, headed by Pal Bib Mirakaj. These are the remains of the Albanian nationalist resistance in that region, after the major portion (about 15 men, led by Kol Pjeci) had fled to Yugoslavia toward the end of 1949. Haxhi Mulla Gushi and Demir Mema, of Bikullet (sic), had been arrested in June 1949 for "suspected subversion".

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3. the death of Ndoc Mirakaj** dealt a severe blow to resistance bands in the Puka region, and that only the hope of outside support in the near future kept them in Albania.

 according to which Doraci fled to Yugoslavia in the fall of 1949.

* Comment: There have been conflicting reports as to Mirakaj's death; (which reported the death of Ndoc Mirakaj), (which reported that Kol Bib Mirakaj had heard from a relative in Albania that his son Ndoc was still alive), and (which stated that the Albanian Government had been forced to retract an earlier statement regarding Mirakaj's death, at which time it was explained that the latter's papers had been found on the body of a dead man whose face was unrecognizable because of bullet wounds).

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